

Thule Times

ORI Edition

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ORI begins today— “This is what we do!”

By Col. John Haven
821 Air Base Group Commander

It's time! That's right, we officially kicked off our Operational Readiness Inspection today. This is what we've all been planning and training for. Our hard work and honed skills will be put to the test throughout the next week.

As I said during our last commander's call, there should be no surprises! Just remember, if we're doing our job like we should be, day in and day out, then we'll do great.

Every day, the members of Team Thule ensure we provide combat capabilities through missile warning, space surveillance, and satellite command and control. This inspection is our chance to excel—to show just how good we are at that job.

I guarantee that we will surprise, we will shock, and we will show the inspectors that Thule is truly a premier base in America's Air Force!

I know that each and every member of Team Thule has worked hard to pre-

pare for this inspection and I know we won't disappoint. We must continue to stay on our toes and always look for ways to improve.

Our job now is to show the inspectors that we've trained for this mission and we strive for excellence in everything that we do!

As we put our skills to the test this week, try to remember the following tips for success:

Safety First, Safety Always! - Remember that safety is paramount. While we show our strengths throughout the inspection, we must remember to keep safety at the forefront of all of our actions.

Be the Expert! - Know what will be inspected. Ensure there are no repeat discrepancies.

Exercise Good Discipline! - Use your checklists and procedures.

Attitude is Everything! - Be positive and enthusiastic! Remember that this inspection is a chance for us to shine.

Don't Know? Ask! - If you don't understand what an inspector is re-



Photo By 1st Lt. Jennifer Tribble

Members of the Thule Threat Response Group, Master Sgt. Chris Weaver (from left), Capt. Mark Arzate and MSgt. Scott Kastner, react to an exercise scenario before the ORI. A full-spectrum threat response is just one part of the inspection.

questing, just ask. Remember to never argue and to take any concerns up the chain of command.

Be Professional! - A professional appearance and customs and courtesies really do make a difference.

I can't wait to show the IG what we've got and our work together will show the inspectors what it means to be Thule Proud!

Space professional development – a look ahead

By Gen. Lance W. Lord
AFSPC Commander

Earlier this summer, Under Secretary of the Air Force Peter Teets and I outlined for Congress our strategy to develop the professional Space Cadre the nation needs to acquire and operate future Space systems. We in Air Force Space Command have an aggressive career field tracking plan, matched with an educational plan, to move Spacepower forward. Here's an overview of our first steps, so you can understand how the plan will affect you.

First, we've identified every individual who qualifies as a "Space Professional," and then created a method to record and track your unique experience that differen-

tiates you from all other AF specialties. Congress initially focused solely on the officer corps, but we quickly expanded the definition to include a Total Force ensemble of enlisted members and government civilians, as well as Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members.

Believe it or not, resolving who is and who is not included has been one of our toughest challenges in moving forward. At this point, we define "Space Professionals" as all specialties that research, design, develop, acquire, operate, sustain or enhance our Space systems. This includes a broad range of career fields such as communications, intelligence, maintenance, logistics, weather and a host of others. A subset of this overall group is referred to as the

"Space Cadre" and it consists of the scientists, engineers, program managers and operators who are principally responsible for taking our military Space systems from "concept to employment." This smaller group is the focus of our initial efforts, and so far we have identified nearly 10,000 members. As we continue to evolve, individuals from other career fields may well migrate into the Cadre.

Along with identifying who is in the Space Cadre, we developed a process to track people's unique Space expertise, based on nine distinct categories of "Space Experience Codes" or SPECs. The nine SPECs are: Satellite Systems, Nuclear Systems (e.g., ICBMs), Spacelift, Missile Warning, Space Control, Intelligence/

Surveillance and Reconnaissance, Kinetic Effects (e.g., Ballistic Missile Defense), Space Warfare Command and Control (e.g., AOCs), and a general category for all other Space experience. To date, we have evaluated more than 7,000 active duty officer and enlisted records and documented each individual's history of Space Experience Codes along with their current level of certification.

The next step involved development of a Space education continuum, specifically targeted to members of the Space Cadre and offered at recurring points throughout their careers. Similar to PME, these courses are designed to prepare people for progressively higher levels of responsibility. By periodically bringing members of the Cadre together, the Space education continuum will also serve to help nurture a stronger sense of "Space culture," which was a particular area of concern for the 2001 Space Commission. So far, the catalogue of courses includes Space 100, Space 200, Space 300 and Advanced Space Training for our various operational Space systems.

To tie all of these education and

training initiatives together, we are moving forward on the standup of a "National Security Space Institute." Our goal is that the institute will transform our existing Space Operations School into a DoD-wide center of excellence for Space academic training. In addition, we will partner with a consortium of civilian institutions of higher learning to leverage their existing academic expertise in the areas necessary to develop our Space Professional Community.

We already have Space Professionals integrated and bringing Space capability to the Combatant Commanders and Combat Air Forces. Approximately 135 individuals have graduated from the Space Weapons Instructor Course at Nellis AFB, Nevada. They are integrated throughout the Air Force providing Space expertise in and out of theater. We have roughly 500 additional people that have experience with Space integration work in theater and we have sent more than 1,600 personnel from AFSPC to the theater for Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM.

That's where we've been and where

we are going. We've taken the initiative to step forward smartly, but nothing happens overnight. We've still got a great deal of work ahead of us and it will take everyone's help. Space systems and capabilities are integral to our success in fighting today's battles and the linchpin to all planning and execution for success in tomorrow's battles. Your contribution to the fight, and that of every member of the Space Professional Development community, is vital to our success.

Many of you have already seen the Space Professional Development presentation given by our Headquarters Space Professional team. For those of you who haven't, they'll be coming to your base soon. Please take advantage of this opportunity to ask the tough questions and get on board the Space Professional Development train.

For details on SPECs and school courses, see: https://halfway.peterson.af.mil/spacepro/Documents/STW%20Website_files/frame.htm

CFC-O announces campaign kickoff

U.S. Military and Federal Employees Make a World of Difference

The Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas (CFC-O), part of the largest workplace giving campaign in the world, has announced the CFC-O will run from 4 October through 3 December 2004 in all commands.

During the campaign season, donors can designate contributions to a variety of deserving American and U.S.-based international charities through the CFC-O.

"Last year, U.S. military members and federal employees pulled together and generously raised over \$14.1 million overseas," said Renée Acosta, president of the campaign management organization for the CFC-O. "This year we

know the tradition of giving will continue."

The CFC's philanthropic commitment is rooted in the many charitable campaigns of the 1960s. Seeing a need to collect all the philanthropic campaigns under one umbrella, federal employees created the CFConc campaign, once a year. An Executive Order signed by President Kennedy made the CFC a reality and turned an innovative idea into a uniquely effective way for federal employees to help those in need close by and throughout the world.

For more information, contact the Thule CFC POC, TSgt Eric Balogh at ext. 2346.

Saturday Weather
Occasional Light Snow
High: 30°F (-1°C)
Low: 24°F (-5°C)

Sunday Weather
Occasional Light Snow
High: 28°F (-2°C)
Low: 20°F (-7°C)

Make a World of Difference



Turn in your pledge card
4 October to 3 December

**2004
Combined Federal Campaign**



www.cfcoverseas.org